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7/11/95

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION REPORT**

I. Heading

DATE: July 11, 1995

SUBJECT: Union Lake Radiation site, Union Lake, MI

FROM: Partap Lall, USEPA OSC, Region V, EERB, RS-1

TO:

T. Johnson, USEPA, OSWER, Washington, D.C.	(VIA FAX)
R. Karl, Branch Chief, EERB, Chicago, IL	(VIA FAX)
W. Messenger, Chief, ESS, Chicago, IL	(VIA FAX)
Acting Chief RS-1, Grosse Ile, MI	(VIA FAX)
H. Valetkevitch, OPA, Chicago, IL	(VIA FAX)
T. Brannigan, ORC, Chicago, IL	(VIA FAX)
D. Minnaar, MDPH, Lansing, MI	(VIA FAX)
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Michigan	(VIA FAX)
U.S. Coast Guard District 9	(VIA FAX)
Commerce Township Clerk	(VIA U.S. Mail)
Fire Chief, Commerce Township	(VIA U.S. Mail)
Police Chief, Commerce Township	(VIA U.S. Mail)

II. Background

POLREP NO.: POLREP 1 - Final

SITE NO.: OL

DELIVERY ORDER NO.: 5001-05-845

RESPONSE AUTHORITY: CERCLA EMERGENCY RESPONSE (ERB)

CERCLIS ID NO:

NPL STATUS: Non-NPL

STATE NOTIFICATION: MDPH notified

ACTION MEMORANDUM STATUS:

START DATE: June 28, 1995

DEMobilIZATION DATE: June 28, 1995

COMPLETION DATE: N/A

III. Site Information

A. Incident Category

B. Site Description

1. Site location

The site is located in a residential subdivision in Union Lake, Oakland County, Michigan.

2. Description of Threat

In 1994, police discovered radioactive materials in the car of an 18-year-old boy, whose mother resides at the

Union Lake address. Michigan Dept. of Public Health (MDPH) was contacted to confirm the identity of the material. MDPH determined the material to contain concentrated thorium and americium. Further investigation led MDPH to the Union Lake residence where radioactive material was determined to have caused contamination of a shed in the backyard.

C. Site Inspection

A site inspection that included U.S. EPA, MDPH, and TAT was conducted on January 25, 1995. Radiological survey of the shed confirmed the presence of radioactive materials at levels above regulatory guidelines. Additionally, concentrated radioactive materials taken into custody by police were stored at the Clinton Township, MI, police station.

IV. Response Information

A. Situation

1. Current situation

A removal action at the site has been completed.

2. Removal Activities to Date

During April 1995, EPA and TAT personnel transferred concentrated materials from the Clinton Township police station to the Union Lake location, locking the materials in the shed. They also prepared composite samples and shipped them to a laboratory for profile analysis and to Envirocare of Utah for disposal approval.

ERCS contractor mobilized to site on June 26, 1995. On June 26 and June 27, 1995, all items stored in the contaminated shed were placed in drums. The entire shed was dismantled, cut into sections, and placed in drums.

On June 28, 1995, ERCS macroencapsulated chunks of contaminated lead in concrete. A total of 36 drums of contaminated debris and shed items and one drum of macroencapsulated lead were shipped to Envirocare of Utah. ERCS demobilized. Payment arrangements for disposal at Envirocare of Utah were made by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers IAG with U.S. EPA.

Mercury switches, which were originally among the items stored at the Clinton Township Police Station, were shipped to Bethlehem Apparatus Company in Hellertown, PA, for recycling.

After removal of the shed U.S. EPA Air and Radiation Division conducted a radiological survey to ensure that the cleanup was conducted to acceptable levels. The remainder of the backyard was also surveyed to ensure that no additional radioactive material was left behind.

4. Enforcement

N/A

B. Planned Removal Activities

None

C. Next Steps

None

D. Key Issues

None

ESTIMATED COSTS:

	BUDGETED	TOTAL TO DATE	REMAINING
ERCS		PENDING	
TAT		PENDING	
EPA		PENDING	

Estimated disposal costs: \$20,000